

**FAUQUIER COUNTY  
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, December 4, 2019**

**Old Bust Head Brewing Company  
7134 Farm Station Road  
Vint Hill, Virginia 20187  
5:00 p.m.**

**Attendance:**

Jack LaMonica, Vice Chair (Marshall District Representative)  
Mary Root, Chair (Citizen-at-Large)  
Bryan Jacobs (Lee District Representative)  
Kristie Kendall (Cedar Run District Representative)  
John Toler (Scott District Representative)

**Members Absent:**

Virginia Gerrish (Center District Representative)  
Bob Lee (Planning Commission Representative)

**Staff:**

Wendy Wheatcraft, Staff  
Maureen Williamson, Staff

- 
1. Chair Mary Root called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
  2. The November 6, 2019 meeting minutes were reviewed. Mr. Jacobs made a motion to approve the minutes, as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0.
  3. Ongoing Business
    - Property Research/Hitt Property/Dendrochronology Workshop – March 2019  
Following up on an idea she presented at the November ARB meeting for an educational program centered on historic property research, Ms. Wheatcraft confirmed that Mick Worthington of Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory is interested in making a presentation in Fauquier County with the Peter Hitt house as the focus. Ms. Wheatcraft proposed Saturday, March 28 for the workshop. She told the ARB she envisioned the presentation to be in three parts: 1) Presentation on the historic Hitt Property; 2) Presentation made by dendrochronologist, Mick Worthington of Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory; 3) A discussion, led by Ms. Wheatcraft, on how to perform archival research on a historic property. Ms. Wheatcraft proposed three hours for the workshop with a break after the first and second hours. She said she will try to make the presentation interactive, but since the proposed program is on a Saturday and the County Record's Room is not open, she talked about incorporating screenshots of websites typically used in Fauquier for research. She is considering demonstrating how to perform a chain of title using a specific parcel in order to keep the same center of reference throughout her presentation. Ms. Root suggested that creating a map of the Record's Room may also be helpful. Ms. Wheatcraft proposed collaborating with the Fauquier Historical Society for the workshop. A door prize of the book, *250 Years in Fauquier County: A Virginia Story*, was discussed.

Ms. Wheatcraft said that this workshop would be conducted in addition to a Preservation Month activity sometime in May. She commented that by late March, the ARB will hopefully have received some applications for the annual Preservation Award.

#### 4. New Business

- 2020 Schedule of Other Projects
  - Update of the Historic Preservation Ordinance

The existing Fauquier preservation ordinance (Sec. 4-300 of the Zoning Ordinance) was adopted in 1976 and needs revision to comply with current state code provisions and standard professional practices. Since its revision is long overdue, Ms. Wheatcraft recommended that the ARB members review the current version and consider suggestions for its update this upcoming year.
  - Grant Requests for 2020

Ms. Wheatcraft said that State Survey & Planning grant applications are usually due in February or March. She told the ARB said she did not plan to resubmit the historic black school and churches survey and MPD (multiple property documentation) proposal in 2020, which would have been a two-year project due to the scope of work and amount of necessary funding. She said that the 2019 grant submission scored very well; however, it was not awarded due to a number of reasons. DHR's decision not to accept the 2019 proposal was based in part upon the fact that the Upperville project had not been completed. She commented that the Upperville project was still a work in progress, although a final version is soon forthcoming.

Other possible grant projects were discussed. Ms. Kendall asked if DHR would consider funding rural historic district National Register nominations that have already been determined eligible, but as of this date, never taken to full nomination. She said that a number of years ago, Kim Abe, who at the time was the County's Preservation Planner, completed a Preliminary Information Form (PIF) for the Elk Run/Germantown Rural Historic District, which was then determined potentially eligible. She asked if DHR would be willing to fund a National Register nomination for this district. Ms. Wheatcraft stated that this would be the type of project that the grant would fund. However, the County would not be willing to provide the 50% match for such a project since it has made a point of stating in the past that it does not financially support the submittal of rural historic district National Register nominations. Ms. Wheatcraft believed that a grant involving survey work of the district might work since survey would be required and is usually completed before a National Register nomination is written.

Ms. Wheatcraft reminded the ARB that the State Survey & Planning grant fund was a relatively small pot of money. Projects conducted with this grant are usually small in scope or done in yearly phases. She noted that the majority of the Blackwelltown community, a section of the Elk Run Rural Historic District, has been surveyed and she suggested that perhaps the County could apply for a grant to complete a PIF for a Blackwelltown Historic District, since it would be a project involving a smaller area and the survey work has already been completed.

- A discussion ensued regarding the historic Davis/Burroughs/Tackett Cemetery. Ms. Root told the ARB that she feels there is an encroachment on the cemetery by the owner of the surrounding land. She told the ARB that a portion of the cemetery has

a fenced area that measures approximately 60' x 60', although the cemetery is much larger. She reported that there is a trailer home on the property and asked if a zoning permit was needed for the placement of the trailer home. Ms. Root said she will obtain a copy of the property deed and bring it to the January meeting. Ms. Wheatcraft said that the cemetery was documented by the intern. The historic deed would verify the legal owner of the cemetery. Ms. Wheatcraft suggested that a letter of notification could possibly be sent to the property owner regarding the encroachment concern.

5. Announcements

- Reminder: The ARB will next meet the *second* Wednesday of January 2020 since the first Wednesday of the month falls on January 1, New Years day.
- Courage Creek Incident  
A discussion was had about the renaming of a stream on a 33-acre wooded parcel southeast of Catlett. A long stretch of the approximately three-mile-long stream was historically named Negro Run, a tributary of Town Run. The new property owners submitted a name change request to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (USBGN). The USBGN board approved the request to rename the tributary Courage Creek.
- Mr. LaMonica told the ARB that David Roos, a member of the town council in The Plains since 2012, died November 23, 2019. He shared that a celebration of David Roos' life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 7, at the Parish Hall at Grace Episcopal Church in The Plains.
- Mr. LaMonica noted that The American Chestnut Foundation's Virginia Chapter at 8266 East Main Street in downtown Marshall will host an open house from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon on Saturday, December 7. The open house will coincide with the annual holiday parade in Marshall, which begins at 11:00 a.m.

6. The next ARB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8, 2019.

7. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.